

PATENT
Serial No. 09/900,561
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of November 18, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,226,670 (Ueno) in view of "Small Group Multicast: A New Solution for Multicasting on the Internet" (Boivie). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8 and 10-20 are patentable over Ueno and Boivie for at least the following reasons.

Ueno is directed to an e-mail distribution system that distributes an email corresponding to a group including a plurality of clients. E-mails are spooled and then extracted from the spool for distribution to the client. As correctly noted by the Examiner in rejecting claims 8 and 11, Ueno does not teach or suggest adding a local/second portion by an edge server, and then sending individual copies of the electronic content including the local portion to the individual addressees in the respective groups of addressees, as currently recited in independent claims 1, 5, and 10. FIG 1 and pages 77-78 of Boivie are cited in an attempt to

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remedy this deficiency in Ueno.

Boivie is directed to a solution for multicasting on the Internet, where packets having headers that include their destinations are forwarded to particular routers in accordance with the destination data. As shown in FIG 1, router R4 receives packets intended for host B, while router R5 receives packets intended for both clients C and D. In other words, packets intended for clients C and D are not sent to router R4 thus increasing efficiency.

It is respectfully submitted that Ueno and Boivie, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 5 and 10 which, amongst other patentable features, requires:

enabling the identified respective edge servers to add a local portion to the copy; and
enabling the identified respective edge servers to send individual copies of the electronic content including said local portion to individual ones of the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of addressees. (Emphasis added)

Rather, Boivie teaches on page 77, middle column, lines 3-5, sending an SGM packet that includes a list of destinations to its

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default router. Adding a local portion by an edge server, as recited in independent claims 1, 5 and 10, is nowhere taught or suggested in Boivie. If the Examiner persists that this feature is shown or suggested somewhere on pages 77-78 of Boivie, then it is respectfully requested that the Examiner point out with specificity, using paragraph and/or line numbers, where exactly is such a feature shown in Boivie.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 5 and 10 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 6-8 and 11-20 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 5 and 10, as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the dependent claims.

Dependent claims 4, 8, 11 and 14-20 also include patentable features, since Ueno, Boivie, and combination thereof do not teach or suggest that the "said local portion includes local information associated with the respective groups of addressees," as recited in claims 4, 8 and 11; or that "said local information include at

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least one of a local weather forecast and address of a local or regional dealer associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees," or "a regional price list associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees," as recited in claims 20-21, and similarly recited in claims 14-19.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due since the total number of claims is 20 in view of canceled claim 9. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

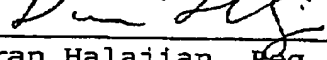
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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Please direct all future correspondence related to this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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